



Australian Bureau of Statistics

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Summary

Main Features

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication provides an up-to-date overview of the South Australian economy and contrasts the State's performance with that of the Australian economy. It provides details of movements in a range of economic indicators.

OVERVIEW

The data in this Overview are presented in trend terms, unless otherwise stated.

Included in this overview are Statistical Summary tables showing comparisons between South Australia and Australia for a variety of economic and social indicators. Also included is a State Summary, showing the performance of all States and Territories for selected indicators.

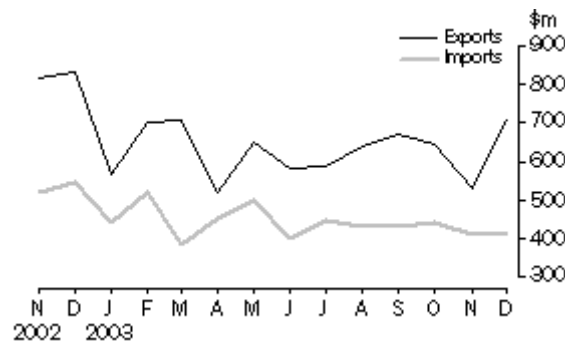
Further detail on all the indicators shown below can be obtained by accessing the latest Data Cube attached to this publication. This Data Cube is available within the Related Links section at the bottom of this page.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The value of South Australian merchandise exports (in original terms) for the month of December 2003 was \$710.8m. This was an increase of 33.4% from the previous month and 14.8% less than the value of exports in December 2002 (\$834.1m).

The value of South Australian merchandise imports (in original terms) for December 2003 was \$416.5m. This was an increase of 2.3% from the \$407.0m recorded in November 2003 and 24.2% less than the December 2002 figure of \$549.4m.

Merchandise Exports and Imports



- See **International Merchandise Imports, Australia (Timeseries, Cat. 5439.0)**,
International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia (Cat. 5368.0)

CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT

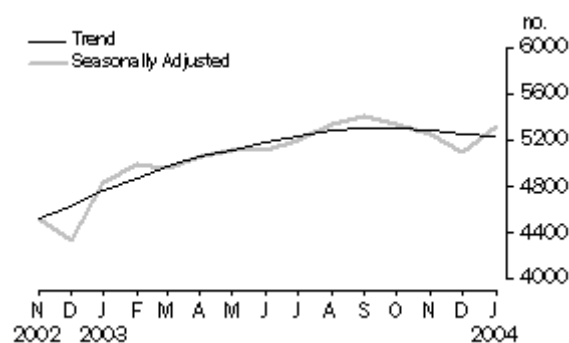
Retail Turnover continued its steady increase, with a positive movement of 0.8% from November 2003 (\$1,131.1m) to December 2003 (\$1,139.7m). The only retail sector to show a decrease over this period was Department Stores which fell 0.7% to \$106.9m. In the twelve month period from December 2002, total retail turnover increased by 5.0% from \$1,085.4m.



- See **Retail Trade, Australia (Cat. 8501.0)**

January 2004 saw a total of 5,243 new motor vehicle sales - a decrease of 0.4% on the previous month's figure of 5,265 vehicles, and 10.1% higher than the 4,760 vehicles recorded in January 2003.

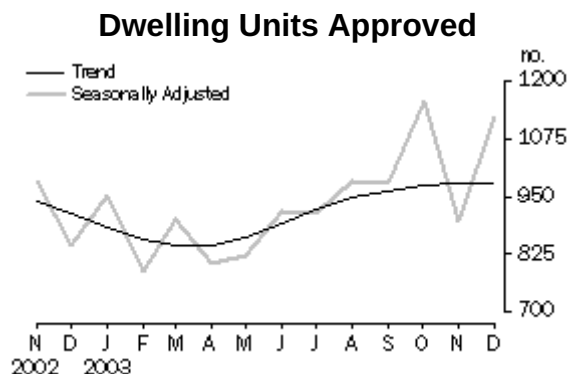
New Motor Vehicle Sales



- See **Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (Cat. 9314.0.55.001)**

HOUSING

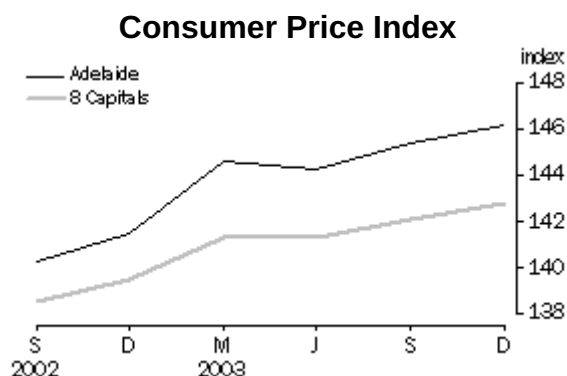
In December 2003 the estimated total number of dwelling units approved in South Australia was 980, slightly higher than November 2003 (978) and 67 more than for the same period last year. The December 2003 figure was 16.3% higher than the low in April 2003 (843).



- See **Building Approvals, Australia (Cat. 8731.0)**

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index in Adelaide for the December quarter 2003 was 146.2, an increase of 3.3% on the level recorded for the same period in 2002 and up 0.6% on the September quarter 2003.

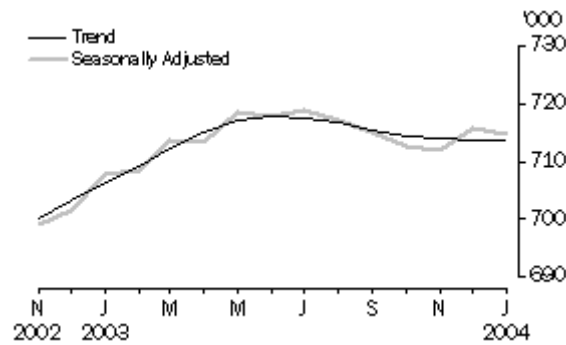


- See **Consumer Price Index, Australia (Cat. 6401.0)**

LABOUR FORCE AND DEMOGRAPHY

The estimate of employed persons in South Australia was 713,700 in January 2004, lower than the peak in June 2003 (717,900) but higher than the level of twelve months ago (706,300). The total number of persons employed full-time in South Australia was 487,200 in January 2004, lower than the January 2003 estimate of 495,300.

Employed Persons



The estimate of the unemployment rate for South Australia was 6.5% in January 2004 and was higher than the January 2003 estimate of 6.0%. The estimate of the participation rate in South Australia was 61.6% in January 2004 compared with 61.3% in January 2003.

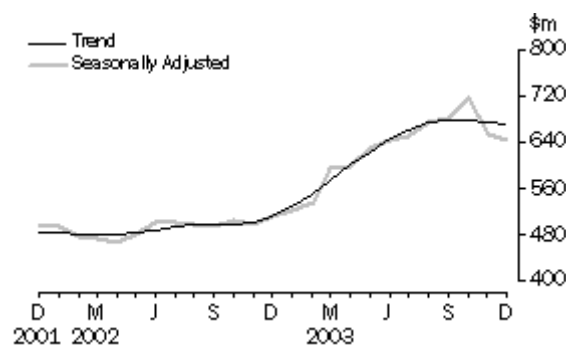


- See **Labour Force, Australia (Cat. 6202.0)**

FINANCIAL MARKETS

The value of secured housing finance commitments (excluding alterations and additions, and including refinancing) was \$671.1m in December 2003. This was an decrease of 0.8% from the previous month and an increase of 31.1% over the value of commitments in December 2002 (\$511.9m).

Secured Housing Finance Commitments (a)



(a) excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

- See **Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (Cat. 5609.0)**

STATISTICAL SUMMARY Part 1

Indicator	Period	South Australia			Australia				
		Number	% change from		Number	% change from		SA as a % of Australia	Source index
			Previous period	Same period previous year		Previous period	Same period previous year		
State accounts									
Domestic final demand									
Chain volume measures trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 03	13,990	1.4	6.1	194,538	0.9	4.5	7.2	1
Private final consumption expenditure									
Current prices trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 03	8,602	0.8	5.5	117,070	1.4	5.6	7.3	
Chain volume measures trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 03	8,271	0.5	3.2	114,120	1.3	4.2	7.2	1
Private gross fixed capital formation									
Current prices trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 03	2,908	4.2	21.1	40,959	1.7	9.6	7.1	
Chain volume measures trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 03	2,891	4.2	21.2	40,155	1.2	7.9	7.2	1
Compensation of employees									
Current prices trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 03	5,955	0.9	5.9	9,313.0	1.4	6.3	6.4	
International accounts									
Exports (\$m)	Dec 03	710.8	33.4	-14.8	9,254.1	6.7	-11.1	7.7	2
Imports (\$m)	Dec 03	416.5	2.3	-24.2	11,033.0	8.3	-9.0	3.8	2
Consumption and investment									
Retail turnover									
Current prices original (\$m)	Dec 03	1,463.9	23.4	5.6	20,090.8	23.6	8.5	7.3	3
Current prices trend (\$m)	Dec 03	1,139.7	0.8	5.0	15,768.5	0.7	8.9	7.2	3
Chain volume measures original (\$m)	Sep qtr 03	3,116.2	-0.8	0.6	43,503.2	3.7	5.4	7.2	3
New motor vehicle sales									
Original (\$m)	Jan 04	4,334	-19.8	8.7	64,797	-16.7	5.9	6.7	4
Trend (\$m)	Jan 04	5,243	-0.4	10.1	76,437	-0.7	6.4	6.9	4
Private new capital expenditure									
Current prices original (\$m)	Sep qtr 03	956	-16.4	16.4	12,695	-5.4	9.1	7.5	5
Current prices trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 03	1,102	3.7	23.8	12,961	0.7	7.7	8.5	5
Private new capital expenditure (\$m)	2002-03	4,020	29.1	..	51,093	15.1	..	7.9	5
Tourist accommodation takings (\$m)	Sep qtr 03	60.5	6.7	10.4	1,373.5	18.5	11.0	4.4	6
Production									

Original ('000)	Jan 04	760.0	-2.0	1.5	10,172.4	-1.9	0.8	7.5	17
Trend ('000)	Jan 04	763.6	0.1	1.6	10,253.8	0.2	1.2	7.4	17
Employed persons									
Original ('000)	Jan 04	706.7	-2.5	1.0	9,558.4	-2.3	1.3	7.4	17
Trend ('000)	Jan 04	713.7	0.0	1.0	9,679.7	0.2	1.8	7.4	17
Participation rate									
Original (b) (%)	Jan 04	61.3	-1.3	0.3	63.3	-1.3	-0.7	..	17
Trend (b) (%)	Jan 04	61.6	0.0	0.3	63.8	0.0	-0.4	..	17
Unemployment rate									
Original (b) (%)	Jan 04	7.0	0.5	0.4	6.0	0.4	-0.5	..	17
Trend (b) (%)	Jan 04	6.5	0.1	0.5	5.6	0.0	-0.5	..	17
Job vacancies ('000)	Nov 03	4.0	-37.4	-22.6	105.7	-2.9	10.0	3.8	18
Industrial disputes ('000 working days lost)	Nov 03	0.8	-75.8	33.3	36.9	-51.3	42.5	2.2	19
Income									
Average weekly earnings (full-time; ordinary time)									
Original (\$)	Aug qtr 03	863.9	0.5	7.3	929.6	0.9	5.7	..	20
Trend (\$)	Aug qtr 03	871.9	1.5	8.0	931.4	1.5	6.1	..	20
Wage cost index (total hourly rate excluding bonuses)									
(c) index no.)	Sep qtr 03	121.6	1.6	4.0	121.6	1.2	3.6	..	21
Financial markets									
Secured housing finance (d)									
Original (\$m)	Dec 03	713.0	6.8	32.4	10,892.4	0.0	28.4	6.5	22
Trend (\$m)	Dec 03	671.1	-0.8	31.1	11,145.8	-0.7	29.6	6.0	22
Finance commitments									
Personal (\$m)	Dec 03	468.4	5.0	12.9	6,798.4	-0.5	19.2	6.9	23
Commercial (\$m)	Dec 03	1,772.1	94.9	64.1	30,446.8	29.2	26.6	5.8	23
Lease (\$m)	Dec 03	17.9	2.4	26.1	569.2	0.3	2.9	3.2	23
Interest rates (b)									
Banks - new housing loans (%)	Jan 04	..	..	..	7.05	0.0	0.50	..	24
Banks - business loans									
Small, medium businesses (e) (%)	Jan 04	..	..	..	8.85	0.0	0.50	..	24
Large business (%)	Jan 04	..	..	..	8.85	0.0	0.50	..	24

(a) Base year of each index 1989-90 = 100.

(b) Change is shown in terms of percentage points.

(c) Base year of index Sep 1997 = 100.

(d) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

(e) Rate for business loans over \$50,000.

STATE SUMMARY

Indicator	Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Source index
SELECTED INDICATORS										
CPI- All groups(a) (index no.)	Dec qtr	143.6	142.1	144.2	146.2	139.2	142.0	138.5	142.9	13
Participation rate trend (%)	Jan 04	63.0	63.5	65.1	61.6	66.2	58.9	71.7	72.0	17

Unemployment rate trend (%)	Jan 04	5.3	5.4	5.9	6.5	5.8	6.7	4.5	3.9	17
Average weekly earnings (full-time adults; ordinary time) trend (\$)	Aug qtr	974.0	933.4	861.9	871.9	931.5	836.4	910.5	1,064.9	20

SELECTED INDICATORS PER HEAD OF POPULATION(b)

State final demand Chain volume measures trend (c) (\$'000)	Sep qtr	9.9	9.8	9.2	9.2	10.0	8.1	13.6	16.8	1
Retail turnover Current prices original (\$)	Dec 03	1,033.0	979.1	1,042.4	958.4	993.3	908.8	880.1	1,239.8	3
Current prices trend (\$)	Dec 03	814.0	753.6	833.3	746.2	769.4	704.2	798.3	966.7	3
New motor vehicle sales trend (no. per '000 population)	Jan 04	3.7	4.1	4.0	3.4	3.6	3.2	3.2	3.8	4
Private new capital expenditure Current prices trend (\$)	Sep qtr	533.6	641.6	563.6	721.5	1,101.3	362.6	2,546.0	538.9	5
Dwelling unit approvals Original (no. per '000 population)	Dec 03	0.583	0.670	0.852	0.781	0.980	0.488	0.227	0.446	7
Trend (no. per '000 population)	Dec 03	0.579	0.786	0.975	0.640	1.070	0.509	0.413	0.452	7
Secured housing finance(d) (\$)	Dec 03	627.7	503.9	536.6	466.8	567.5	285.3	347.9	476.4	22

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS PERIOD

State final demand Chain volume measures trend (c) Retail turnover Current prices original (%)	Sep qtr	0.6	0.5	1.4	1.4	1.8	1.0	3.1	0.6	1
Current prices trend	Dec 03	22.7	25.4	23.1	23.4	24.6	25.9	10.2	22.4	3
New motor vehicle sales trend (%)	Dec 03	0.6	0.5	1.0	0.8	0.2	0.5	0.5	-0.5	3
Private new capital expenditure Current prices trend(e) (%)	Jan 04	-1.0	-0.6	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	-3.0	-0.8	-1.2	4
Dwelling unit approvals Original (%)	Sep qtr	-0.4	-0.4	-2.9	3.7	6.3	-10.8	4.8	4.8	5
Trend (%)	Dec 03	3.7	-7.1	-12.5	43.4	-4.5	-28.3	-10.0	15.2	7
CPI- All groups (%)	Dec 03	-1.7	-1.7	-1.4	0.1	1.2	-0.3	-3.5	-4.1	7
Participation rate trend (e) (%)	Dec qtr	0.8	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.7	13
Unemployment rate trend (e) (%)	Jan 04	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.6	0.1	17
Average weekly earnings (full-time adults;ordinary time) trend (%)	Jan 04	-1.0	0.8	-1.3	1.6	-1.5	-0.1	-4.8	-1.7	17
Secured housing finance (%)	Aug qtr	1.0	1.5	2.3	1.5	2.0	0.7	1.6	1.3	20
	Dec 03	-2.7	4.8	-3.1	6.9	1.7	4.9	7.7	-3.6	22

(a) Base year of index 1989-90=100.

(b) The latest quarterly estimate of Australian resident population has been used to calculate ratios for subsequent periods.
(c) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2001-02.
(d) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.
(e) Change is shown in terms of percentage points.

SOURCE INDEX FOR STATISTICAL & STATE SUMMARY TABLES

- 1 Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (Cat. no. 5206.0)-and ABS data available on request
- 2 International Trade in Goods and Services (Cat. no. 5368.0) and International Merchandise Imports (Cat. no. 5349.0). Further detail available on request and in the associated datacubes.
- 3 Retail Trade, Australia (Cat. no. 8501.0) Monthly
- 4 Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (Cat. no. 9314.0.55.001) Monthly
- 5 Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (Cat. no.5625.0) Quarterly - and Ausstats data.
- 6 Tourist Accommodation, Australia (Cat. no. 8635.0) Quarterly
- 7 Building Approvals, Australia (Cat. no. 8731.0) Monthly
- 8 Building Activity, Australia (Cat. no. 8752.0) Quarterly
- 9 Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (Cat. no. 8762.0) Quarterly
- 10 Manufacturing Production, Australia (Cat. no. 8301.0) Quarterly
- 11 Livestock Products, Australia (Cat. no. 7215.0) Quarterly-and ABS data available on request.
- 12 Actual and Expected Private Mineral Exploration, Australia (Cat. no. 8412.0) Quarterly
- 13 Consumer Price Index (Cat. no. 6401.0) Quarterly
- 14 Producer Price Indexes, Australia (Cat. no. 6427.0) Quarterly
- 15 House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6416.0) Quarterly
- 16 Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat. no. 3101.0) Quarterly
- 17 Labour Force, Australia (Cat. no. 6202.0) Monthly
- 18 Job Vacancies, Australia (Cat. no. 6354.0) Quarterly
- 19 Industrial Disputes, Australia (Cat. no. 6321.0) Monthly

- 20 Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (Cat. no. 6302.0) Quarterly
- 21 Wage Cost Index, Australia (Cat. no. 6345.0) Quarterly
- 22 Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (Cat. no. 5609.0) Monthly
- 23 Lending Finance, Australia (Cat. no. 5671.0) Monthly-and ABS data available on request.
- 24 Reserve Bank of Australia Bulletin

About this Release

ABOUT THIS RELEASE

Provides an up-to-date overview of what has been happening in the South Australian economy and contrasts the state's performance with that of the Australian economy. Provides details of movements in a range of economic indicators and also contains time series information.

Changing to electronic format, from the Feb 2004 release.

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